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SCIENCE

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THE CHICAGO MEETING

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THE seventy-third meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in Chicago from December 27 to January 1, was the second of the greater convocation week meetings of the association and of the national scientific societies associated with it, convened once in four years successively in New York, Chicago and Washington. The remarkable scientific activity of the central west and of the reconstruction period following the war were adequately reflected by the attendance and programs at Chicago, which have probably not been surpassed by any previous gathering of scientific men in this or any other country. In addition to fourteen sections of the association, forty-one national scientific societies met in Chicago and the official program of 112 pages exhibited the scientific productivity of the nation in the whole range of the natural and exact sciences.

The association has been fortunate in its presidents. The address of the retiring president, Dr. Simon Flexner, director of the laboratories of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, on "Twenty-five years of bacteriology," printed in the last issue of SCIENCE, was an admirably clear presentation of a subject unsurpassed in its importance to human welfare, described by one who has led in the work. Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the Bureau of Entomology, presided with dignity, skill and tact. He has played a large part in a subject in which science has demonstrated its service in the economic development of the nation and has been the chief executive officer of the association during the twenty-two years which have witnessed such an extraordinary development of the scientific work of the country, paralleled by the growth of the association from some 1,200 to over 10,000 members.